

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communication system comprising a communication device and a terminal device that are connected to and capable of performing data communications with each other,

5 the communication device comprising:

a communicating unit that performs data communications via a network;

10 a communication-end storing unit capable of storing various data and capable of being recognized by the terminal device as an external storage device connected to the terminal device; and

15 a communication-storage commanding unit comprising

a judging portion that judges whether or not a communication data transmitted through or received by the communicating unit is satisfied with a prescribed storage condition;

20 a storing portion that stores a communication data in the communication end storing unit if the communication data is satisfied with the prescribed condition as a result of judgment by the judging unit;

25 a handling portion that handles a communication data as a plurality of data segments each having a prescribed data size if the communication data is not satisfied with the prescribed condition as a result of judgment by the judging portion; and

a sequentially storing portion that sequentially stores the data segments in the communication-end storing unit;

and

5 the terminal device comprising:

a terminal-end storing unit that stores various data;

and

a terminal-end storage commanding unit that stores the communication data or the data segments in the terminal-end storing unit when the communication data or data segments are stored in the communication-end storing unit.

10 2. The communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the terminal device further comprises terminal-end deletion commanding unit that deletes the communication data or the data segments from the communication-end storing unit after the communication data or data segments have been stored in the terminal-end storing unit by the terminal-end storage commanding unit.

15 20 3. The communication system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the communication-end storage commanding unit further comprises a generating portion that generates and stores specification data in the communication-end storing unit, the specification data identifying the plurality of data segments as segments of data divided from the communication data; and

wherein the terminal device further comprises data combining unit that creates communication data by combining the data segments stored in the terminal-end storing unit based on the specification data stored in the communication-
5 end storing unit.

4. The communication system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the terminal-end storage commanding unit comprises:

a judging portion that judges storage of the specification data in the communication-end storing unit; and

10 a storing unit that stores the specification data in the terminal-end storing unit when the specification data is stored in the communication-end storing unit as a result of judgment made by the judging portion that judges storage of the specification data; and

15 wherein the terminal-end deletion commanding unit deletes the specification data from the communication-end storing unit provided in the communication device after the specification data has been stored in the terminal-end storing unit; and

20 wherein the data combining unit combines the data segments based on the specification data stored in the terminal-end storing unit.

5. The communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the communicating unit is configured to transmit or
25 receive communication data in the data segment basis; and

wherein the storing portion that stores a communication data stores a communication data formed from the data segments transmitted or received by the communicating unit in the communication-end storing unit if the communication data is satisfied with the prescribed condition; and

5 wherein the sequentially storing portion stores the data segments in the communication-end storing unit each time a data segment is transmitted or received by the communicating unit if the communication data is not satisfied
10 with the prescribed condition.

6. The communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the handling portion that handles a communication data comprises a data dividing section that divides communication data transmitted or received by the communicating unit into the data segments if the communication data is not satisfied with the prescribed condition as a result of judgment by the judging portion, the sequentially storing portion storing in the communication-end storing unit the divided data segments when the communication data has been divided into the data segments by the data dividing section.

15 20 25 7. The communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the prescribed storage condition comprises a storage capacity of a remaining area in the communication-end storage unit indicating an available storage area for storing communication data, the storage condition being satisfied if

the storage capacity is greater than or equal to a prescribed threshold value.

8. The communication system as claimed in claim 1,
wherein the storage condition comprises a specific parameter
5 associated with the communication data transmitted or received by the communicating unit, the storage condition being satisfied if the communication data is associated with the specific parameter.

9. The communication system as claimed in claim 8,
10 wherein the communication data comprises image data; and
wherein the specific parameter comprises the number of colors in an image represented by the image data, the storage condition being satisfied if the number of colors in the image is greater than or equal to a prescribed number.

15 10. The communication system as claimed in claim 8,
wherein the communication data comprises image data; and
wherein the specific parameter comprises a resolution of an image, the storage condition being satisfied if a resolution of an image is greater than or equal to a prescribed threshold value.

20 11. The communication system as claimed in claim 1,
wherein the communication device further comprises mode switching unit that switches, by a user's operation, an operating mode of the communication device between a normal mode for storing communication data transmitted or received

by the communicating unit in the communication-end storing unit unchanged by the storing portion that stores a communication data, and a divided mode for storing the data segments in the communication-end storing unit by the sequentially storing portion when communication data is transmitted or received by the communicating unit, the prescribed storage condition being satisfied if the operation mode is switched to the normal mode by the switching unit.

12. A communication system comprising a communication device and a terminal device that are connected to and capable of performing data communications with each other,

the communication device comprising:

a communicating unit that performs data communications via a network;

15 a communication-end storing unit capable of storing various types of data and capable of being recognized by the terminal device as an external storage device connected to the terminal device; and

20 a communication-end storage commanding unit that stores description data indicating details of communications performed by the communicating unit in the communication-end storing unit in a state that satisfies a prescribed storage condition; and

the terminal device comprising:

25 a terminal-end storing unit that stores various types

of data; and

5 a terminal-end storage commanding unit that treats the description data as the data for satisfying the storage condition and stores in the terminal-end storing unit the description data from among all data stored in the communication-end storing unit.

10 13. The communication system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the terminal device further comprises terminal-end deletion commanding unit that deletes data from the communication-end storing unit that is identical to data stored in the terminal-end storing unit by a command from the terminal-end storage commanding unit.

15 14. The communication system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the communication-end storage commanding unit stores communication data transmitted or received by the communication unit in the communication-end storing unit in a state that satisfies a prescribed first storage condition, and stores description data indicating communication details of the communication data in the communication-end storing unit 20 in a state that satisfies a prescribed second storage condition; and

25 wherein the terminal-end storage commanding unit treats the communication data as data that satisfies the first storage condition and treats the description data as data that satisfies the second storage condition from among

data stored in the communication-end storing unit and, stores the communication data and the description data in the terminal-end storing unit.

15. The communication system as claimed in claim 12, 5 wherein the communication-end storage commanding unit stores data in a specific storage area of the communication-end storing unit in order to satisfy the storage condition; and

wherein the terminal-end storage commanding unit stores data located in the specific storage area of the communication-end storing unit in the terminal-end storing unit. 10

16. The communication system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the communication device further comprises a storing unit that stores identification data in the communication-end storing unit, the identification data identifying the communication device as a device configured to store description data; and 15

wherein the terminal-end storage commanding unit commands storage of data into the terminal-end storing unit when the identification data has been stored in the communication-end storing unit. 20

17. The communication system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the identification data stored in the communication-end storing unit comprises computation data calculated from prescribed target data stored in the communication-end storing unit according to a specific procedure; and 25

wherein the terminal-end storage commanding unit commands storage of data into the terminal-end storing unit only when the identification data is stored in the communication-end storing unit provided in the communication device and when the computation data indicated by the identification data is in conformance with data calculated from the target data stored in the communication-end storing unit according to the specific procedure.

18. The communication system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the communication device further comprises a status switching unit that switches the operating status of the communication-end storing unit between a modifiable state in which data can be stored to or deleted from the communication-end storing unit and a non-modifiable state in which data cannot be stored or deleted; and

the status switching unit switches the operating status of the communication-end storing unit to the modifiable state when the communication-end storage commanding unit commands the communication-end storing unit to store data and until the data is stored in the communication-end storing unit, and when the communication-end deletion commanding unit commands the communication-end storing unit to delete data and until the data has been deleted from the communication-end storing unit.

25 19. A first storage medium containing a program for

performing data communication between a communication device and a terminal device, the communication device including communication-end storing unit capable of storing various data and capable of being recognized by the terminal device as an external storage device connected to the terminal device,
5 device, the first program comprising:

a program of performing data communication via a network; and

a program of commanding storage in the communication-
10 end storing unit, comprising

a program of judging whether or not a communication data transmitted through or received by the communicating unit is satisfied with a prescribed storage condition;

15 a program of storing a communication data in the communication end storing unit if the communication data is satisfied with the prescribed condition as a result of the judgment;

20 a program of handling a communication data as a plurality of data segments each having a prescribed data size if the communication data is not satisfied with the prescribed condition as a result of the judgment; and

25 a program of sequentially storing the data segments in the communication-end storing unit.

20. A second storage medium containing a program for performing data communication between a communication device and a terminal device for use in combination with the first storage medium as claimed in claim 19, the terminal device including terminal-end storing unit that stores various data, the program comprising:

10 a program of commanding storage of the communication data or the data segments in the terminal-end storing unit when the communication data or data segments are stored in the communication-end storing unit; and

15 21. The second storage medium as claimed in claim 20, wherein the program further comprises a program of commanding deletion of the communication data or the data segments from the communication-end storing unit after the communication data or data segments have been stored in the terminal-end storing unit.

20 22. A third storage medium containing a program for performing data communication between a communication device and a terminal device, the communication device including communication-end storing unit capable of storing various types of data and capable of being recognized by the terminal device as an external storage device connected to the terminal device, the program comprising:

25 a program of performing data communications via a network;

a program of commanding storage in the communication-end storing unit of description data indicating details of communications performed by the data communication program in the communication-end storing unit in a state that satisfies a prescribed storage condition.

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23. A fourth storage medium containing a program for performing data communication between a communication device and a terminal device for use in combination with the third storage medium as claimed in claim 22, the terminal device including terminal-end storing unit that stores various types of data, the program comprising:

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a program of treating the description data as the data for satisfying the storage condition and commanding storage in the terminal-end storing unit of the description data from among all data stored in the communication-end storing unit.

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24. The fourth storage medium as claimed in claim 23 wherein the program further comprises a program of deleting data from the communication-end storing unit that is identical to data stored in the terminal-end storing unit by a command from the commanding program.

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